



The Mysterious Tadpole

By Steven Kellogg

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It's Louis's birthday and Uncle McAllister has brought him a very special gift—a tadpole all the way from Scotland! Louis can hardly wait for Alphonse to grow into a frog. But it soon becomes clear that Alphonse is not turning into any ordinary frog. First Alphonse outgrows his jar, then the sink, and then the bathtub! This new edition of *The Mysterious Tadpole* boasts reimagined story twists and entirely new illustrations. The lovable giant of a tadpole has grown into something even more wonderful!

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The Mysterious Tadpole By Steven Kellogg Bibliography

- Rank: #229696 in Books
- Brand: Puffin
- Published on: 2004-06-17
- Released on: 2004-06-17
- Original language: English
- Number of items: 1
- Dimensions: 11.50" h x .16" w x 9.06" l, .42 pounds
- Binding: Paperback
- 40 pages

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Editorial Review

Amazon.com Review

Steven Kellogg's award-winning picture book *The Mysterious Tadpole*, first published in 1977, is back with wonderful new illustrations and additional "nuances of character, sequence, and plot" in this fabulous 25th-anniversary edition. The story begins when Uncle McAllister brings a "wee bit of Scotland"--a tadpole to be precise--to Louis for his birthday. Delighted, Louis names him Alphonse and brings him to school for show-and-tell. A diet of cheeseburgers allows the creature to grow by leaps and bounds, and he soon outgrows his jar, the kitchen sink, and the bathtub. Finally, when the high school swim team learns of Alphonse's presence in their pool the hard way, Uncle McAllister gets a call: "'Oh, the wee tadpole?' he said. 'Why, he came from the lake nearby. It's the one folks call Loch Ness.'" Louis's ingenuity (he takes on a paper route to pay for his pet's burgers, and that of his friend the librarian (she thinks they can use the aquatic Alphonse to find pirate treasure and use the money to build him his own swimming pool) are heartwarming and hilarious. Children who are attached to a pet will completely relate to Louis's devotion to his unusual new friend. Kellogg's luminous illustrations of the ever-expanding monster and bewildered townspeople are expressive, often hysterical, and full of tiny details that demand many rereadings. A treat! (Ages 4 to 8) --*Karin Snelson*

From Publishers Weekly

Several reissued titles will be welcomed by fans of their celebrated authors and artists. Louis gets the gift that keeps on giving or growing, rather in *The Mysterious Tadpole* by Steven Kellogg. The story about a boy and his burgeoning birthday present returns in a 25th-anniversary edition featuring revised text and full-color illustrations. (Aug.)

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From [Booklist](#)

PreS-Gr. 2. For the twenty-fifth-anniversary edition of *The Mysterious Tadpole*, Kellogg offers a somewhat expanded version of the story along with new artwork. As before, Louis receives a birthday present from his uncle in Scotland: Alphonse, an amiable tadpole that outgrows his bowl, the bathtub, and even the apartment. In the new version, Louis enrolls Alphonse (in his dog-size phase) in obedience school as "a hairless spotted water spaniel from Scotland," bolstering the plot a little and adding some Pinkertonesque scenes. In the appended author's note, Kellogg mentions that the "economics of printing" in 1977 demanded prepreparation of colors in the art. Whether the result of technological progress or of changes in Kellogg's style over the last quarter century, the new illustrations are bigger, bolder, brighter, and brimming with lively details. Some may miss the muted tones of the original art, but odds are that children will find the new edition irresistible.

Carolyn Phelan

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Users Review

From reader reviews:

Ruth Nicholson:

What do you regarding book? It is not important together with you? Or just adding material when you require something to explain what the ones you have problem? How about your extra time? Or are you busy person? If you don't have spare time to accomplish others business, it is gives you the sense of being bored faster. And you have spare time? What did you do? Everyone has many questions above. They have to

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Adam Sea:

A lot of people always spent their own free time to vacation as well as go to the outside with them friends and family or their friend. Are you aware? Many a lot of people spent these people free time just watching TV, or perhaps playing video games all day long. If you would like try to find a new activity that's look different you can read the book. It is really fun for yourself. If you enjoy the book which you read you can spent all day long to reading a reserve. The book The Mysterious Tadpole it is quite good to read. There are a lot of people that recommended this book. We were holding enjoying reading this book. Should you did not have enough space to create this book you can buy the actual e-book. You can m0ore effortlessly to read this book out of your smart phone. The price is not too expensive but this book features high quality.

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